Union Calendar No. 133

105TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H.R. 2204

[Report No. 105-236]

To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 21, 1997

Mr. Shuster (for himself, Mr. Oberstar, Mr. Gilchrest, and Mr. Clement) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

July 31, 1997

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed
[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]
[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on July 21, 1997]

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

- 2 This Act may be cited as the "Coast Guard Authoriza-
- 3 tion Act of 1997".
- 4 SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 5 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:
 - Sec. 1. Short title.
 - Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

- Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 102. Authorized levels of military strength and training.

TITLE II—COAST GUARD MANAGEMENT

- Sec. 201. Removal of cap on warrant officer severance pay.
- Sec. 202. Authority to implement awards programs.

TITLE III—MARINE SAFETY

- Sec. 301. Extension of territorial sea for certain laws.
- Sec. 302. Penalties for interfering with the safe operation of a vessel.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

- Sec. 401. Vessel identification system amendments.
- Sec. 402. Conveyance of Coast Guard Reserve training facility, Jacksonville, Florida.
- Sec. 403. Documentation of certain vessels.
- Sec. 404. Conveyance of Coast Guard facility in Nahant, Massachusetts.
- Sec. 405. Unreasonable obstruction to navigation.
- Sec. 406. Financial responsibility for oil spill response vessels.
- Sec. 407. Conveyance of Coast Guard property to Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, Florida.
- Sec. 408. Penalty for violation of international safety convention.
- Sec. 409. Coast Guard City, USA.
- Sec. 410. Conveyance of Communication Station, Boston Marshfield Receiver Site, Massachusetts.

6 TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

- 7 SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
- 8 Funds are authorized to be appropriated for necessary
- 9 expenses of the Coast Guard, as follows:
- 10 (1) For the operation and maintenance of the
- 11 Coast Guard—

1	(A) for fiscal year 1998, \$2,790,700,000;
2	and
3	(B) for fiscal year 1999, \$2,854,700,000; of
4	which \$25,000,000 shall be derived each fiscal
5	year from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to
6	carry out the purposes of section $1012(a)(5)$ of
7	the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.
8	(2) For the acquisition, construction, rebuilding,
9	and improvement of aids to navigation, shore and off-
10	shore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equip-
11	ment related thereto—
12	(A) for fiscal year 1998, \$401,000,000, of
13	which \$2,000,000 shall be made available for
14	concept evaluation for a replacement vessel for
15	the Coast Guard icebreaker MACKINAW, which
16	concept evaluation shall be transmitted to the
17	Congress not later than April 1, 1998; and
18	(B) for fiscal year 1999, \$440,000,000;
19	to remain available until expended, of which
20	\$20,000,000 shall be derived each fiscal year from the
21	Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the pur-
22	poses of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of
23	1990.
24	(3) For research, development, test, and evalua-
25	tion of technologies, materials, and human factors di-

1	rectly relating to improving the performance of the
2	Coast Guard's mission in support of search and res-
3	cue, aids to navigation, marine safety, marine envi-
4	ronmental protection, enforcement of laws and trea-
5	ties, ice operations, oceanographic research, and de-
6	fense readiness—
7	(A) for fiscal year 1998, \$19,500,000; and
8	(B) for fiscal year 1999, \$19,000,000;
9	to remain available until expended, of which
10	\$1,000,000 may be made available in fiscal year 1998
11	for fuel cell research, and of which \$3,500,000 shall
12	be derived each fiscal year from the Oil Spill Liabil-
13	ity Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section
14	1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.
15	(4) For retired pay (including the payment of
16	obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropria-
17	tions for this purpose), payments under the Retired
18	Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefit
19	Plans, and payments for medical care of retired per-
20	sonnel and their dependents under chapter 55 of title
21	10, United States Code—
22	(A) for fiscal year 1998, \$652,000,000; and
23	(B) for fiscal year 1999, \$692,000,000.
24	(5) For alteration or removal of bridges over
25	navigable waters of the United States constituting ob-

1	structions to navigation, and for personnel and ad-
2	ministrative costs associated with the Bridge Alter-
3	ation Program—
4	(A) for fiscal year 1998, \$17,300,000; and
5	(B) for fiscal year 1999, \$20,000,000,
6	to remain available until expended.
7	(6) For environmental compliance and restora-
8	tion at Coast Guard facilities (other than parts and
9	equipment associated with operations and mainte-
10	nance), \$21,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1998 and
11	1999, to remain available until expended.
12	SEC. 102. AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF MILITARY STRENGTH
13	AND TRAINING.
14	(a) Active Duty Strength.—The Coast Guard is
15	authorized an end-of-year strength for active duty personnel
	authorized an end-of-year strength for active duty personnel of—
16	of—
16 17	of— (1) 37,944 as of September 30, 1998; and
16 17 18 19	of— (1) 37,944 as of September 30, 1998; and (2) 38,038 as of September 30, 1999.
16 17 18 19	of— (1) 37,944 as of September 30, 1998; and (2) 38,038 as of September 30, 1999. (b) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—The Coast
16 17 18 19 20	of— (1) 37,944 as of September 30, 1998; and (2) 38,038 as of September 30, 1999. (b) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—The Coast Guard is authorized average military training student
16 17 18 19 20 21	of— (1) 37,944 as of September 30, 1998; and (2) 38,038 as of September 30, 1999. (b) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—The Coast Guard is authorized average military training student loads as follows:

1	(B) for fiscal year 1999, 1,424 student
2	years.
3	(2) For flight training—
4	(A) for fiscal year 1998, 98 student years;
5	and
6	(B) for fiscal year 1999, 98 student years.
7	(3) For professional training in military and ci-
8	vilian institutions—
9	(A) for fiscal year 1998, 283 student years;
10	and
11	(B) for fiscal year 1999, 283 student years.
12	(4) For officer acquisition—
13	(A) for fiscal year 1998, 814 student years;
14	and
15	(B) for fiscal year 1999, 810 student years.
16	TITLE II—COAST GUARD
17	MANAGEMENT
18	SEC. 201. REMOVAL OF CAP ON WARRANT OFFICER SEVER-
19	ANCE PAY.
20	Section 286a(d) of title 14, United States Code, is
21	amended by striking the last sentence.
22	SEC. 202. AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT AWARDS PROGRAMS.
23	Section 93 of title 14, United States Code, is amend-
24	ed—

1	(1) in paragraph (s), by striking the comma at
2	the end and inserting a semicolon;
3	(2) in paragraph (t), by redesignating subpara-
4	graphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), re-
5	spectively;
6	(3) by redesignating paragraphs (a) through (v)
7	in order as paragraphs (1) through (21);
8	(4) by redesignating the existing text (as so
9	amended) as subsection (a); and
10	(5) by adding at the end the following new sub-
11	section:
12	"(b) The Commandant may provide for the honorary
13	recognition of individuals and organizations, including
14	State and local governments and commercial and nonprofit
15	organizations, that significantly contribute to Coast Guard
16	programs, missions, or operations, by awarding plaques,
17	medals, trophies, badges, and similar items to acknowledge
18	that contribution.".
19	TITLE III—MARINE SAFETY
20	SEC. 301. EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL SEA FOR CERTAIN
21	LAWS.
22	(a) Ports and Waterways Safety Act.—Section 3
23	of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1222)
24	is amended by adding at the end the following:

1	"(5) 'Navigable waters of the United States' in-
2	cludes all waters of the territorial sea of the United
3	States as described in Presidential Proclamation 5928
4	of December 27, 1988.".
5	(b) Title 46, United States Code.—Subtitle II of
6	title 46, United States Code, is amended as follows:
7	(1) In section 2101—
8	(A) by redesignating paragraph (17a) as
9	paragraph (17b); and
10	(B) by inserting after paragraph (17) the
11	following:
12	"(17a) 'navigable waters of the United States'
13	includes all waters of the territorial sea of the United
14	States as described in Presidential Proclamation 5928
15	of December 27, 1988.".
16	(2) In section 2301, by inserting "(including the
17	territorial sea of the United States as described in
18	Presidential Proclamation 5928 of December 27,
19	1988)" after "of the United States".
20	(3) In section 4102(e), by striking "on the high
21	seas" and inserting "beyond 3 nautical miles from the
22	baseline from which the territorial sea of the United
23	States is measured".
24	(4) In section 4301(a), by inserting "(including
25	the territorial sea of the United States as described in

1	Presidential Proclamation 5928 of December 27,
2	1988)" after "of the United States".
3	(5) In section 4502(a)(7), by striking "on vessels
4	that operate on the high seas" and inserting "beyond
5	3 nautical miles from the baseline from which the ter-
6	ritorial sea of the United States is measured".
7	(6) In section 4506(b), by striking paragraph (2)
8	and inserting the following:
9	"(2) is operating—
10	"(A) in internal waters of the United
11	States, or
12	"(B) within 3 nautical miles from the base-
13	line from which the territorial sea of the United
14	States is measured.".
15	(7) In section 8502(a)(3), by striking "not on the
16	high seas" and inserting: "not beyond 3 nautical
17	miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea
18	of the United States is measured".
19	(8) In section 8503(a), by striking paragraph (2)
20	and inserting the following:
21	"(2) is operating—
22	"(A) in internal waters of the United
23	States, or

1	"(B) within 3 nautical miles from the base-
2	line from which the territorial sea of the United
3	States is measured.".
4	SEC. 302. PENALTIES FOR INTERFERING WITH THE SAFE
5	OPERATION OF A VESSEL.
6	(a) In General.—Section 2302 of title 46, United
7	States Code, is amended—
8	(1) by amending the section heading to read as
9	follows:
10	"§ 2302. Penalties for negligent operations and inter-
11	fering with safe operation";
12	and
13	(2) in subsection (a) by striking "that endan-
14	gers" and inserting "or interfering with the safe oper-
15	ation of a vessel, so as to endanger".
16	(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sections at
17	the beginning of chapter 23 of title 46, United States Code,
18	is amended by striking the item relating to section 2302
19	and inserting the following:
	"2302. Penalties for negligent operations and interfering with safe operation.".
20	TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS
21	SEC. 401. VESSEL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM AMENDMENTS.
22	Title 46, United States Code, is amended—
23	(1) in section 12102(a), by striking "or is not ti-
24	tled in a State";

1	(2) in section 12301, by adding at the end the
2	following:
3	"(c) A documented vessel shall not be titled or required
4	to display numbers under this chapter by a State, and any
5	certificate of title issued by a State for a documented vessel
6	shall be surrendered in accordance with regulations pre-
7	scribed by the Secretary.
8	"(d) The Secretary may approve the surrender under
9	subsection (c) of a certificate of title covered by a preferred
10	mortgage under section 31322(d) of this title only if the
11	mortgagee consents.";
12	(3) in section 31322—
13	(A) by amending subsection (b) to read as
14	follows:
15	"(b) Any indebtedness secured by a preferred mortgage
16	that is filed or recorded under this chapter, or that is subject
17	to a mortgage or instrument that is deemed to be a preferred
18	mortgage under subsection (d) of this section, may have any
19	rate of interest to which the parties agree."; and
20	(B) in subsection (d), by amending para-
21	graph (3) to read as follows:
22	"(3) A preferred mortgage under this subsection con-
23	tinues to be a preferred mortgage even if the vessel is no
24	longer titled in the State where the mortgage or instrument

1	granting a security interest became a preferred mortgage
2	under this subsection."; and
3	(4) in section 31325—
4	(A) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting "a
5	vessel titled in a State," after "a vessel to be doc-
6	umented under chapter 121 of this title,";
7	(B) in subsection (b)(3), by inserting "a
8	vessel titled in a State," after "a vessel for which
9	an application for documentation is filed under
10	chapter 121 of this title,"; and
11	(C) in subsection (c), by inserting "a vessel
12	titled in a State," after "a vessel to be docu-
13	mented under chapter 121 of this title,".
14	SEC. 402. CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD RESERVE TRAIN-
15	ING FACILITY, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.
16	(a) In General.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
17	sion of law—
18	(1) the land and improvements thereto compris-
19	ing the Coast Guard Reserve training facility in
20	Jacksonville, Florida, is deemed to be surplus prop-
21	erty; and
22	(2) the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall
23	dispose of all right, title, and interest of the United
24	States in and to that property, by sale, at fair market
25	value.

1	(b) RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL.—Before a sale is made
2	under subsection (a) to any other person, the Commandant
3	of the Coast Guard shall give to the city of Jacksonville,
4	Florida, the right of first refusal to purchase all or any
5	part of the property required to be sold under that sub-
6	section.
7	SEC. 403. DOCUMENTATION OF CERTAIN VESSELS.
8	(a) General Waiver.—Notwithstanding section 27 of
9	the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883), sec-
10	tion 8 of the Act of June 19, 1886 (46 App. U.S.C. 289),
11	and sections 12106 and 12108 of title 46, United States
12	Code, the Secretary of Transportation may issue a certifi-
13	cate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for
14	each of the following vessels:
15	(1) SEAGULL (United States official number
16	1038605).
17	(2) BAREFOOT CONTESA (United States offi-
18	$cial\ number\ 285410).$
19	(3) PRECIOUS METAL (United States official
20	number 596316).
21	(4) BLUE HAWAII (State of Florida registra-
22	$tion\ number\ FL0466KC).$
23	(5) SOUTHERN STAR (United States official
24	number 650774).

1	(6) KEEWAYDIN (United States official num-
2	ber 662066).
3	(7) W.G. JACKSON (United States official
4	number 1047199).
5	(8) The vessel known as hopper barge $E-15$
6	(North Carolina State official number 264959).
7	(9) MIGHTY JOHN III (formerly the NIAG-
8	ARA QUEEN, Canadian registration number
9	318746).
10	(10) MAR Y PAZ (United States official number
11	668179).
12	(11) SAMAKEE (State of New York registration
13	number NY 4108 FK).
14	(12) NAWNSENSE (United States official num-
15	ber 977593).
16	(b) Ownership of Vessel Philadelphia.—Not-
17	withstanding section 2 of the Shipping Act, 1916 (46 App.
18	U.S.C. 802, 803) and section 12102(a)(4) of title 46, United
19	States Code, the parent corporation of the corporation hold-
20	ing title to the vessel PHILADELPHIA (United States offi-
21	cial number 654192) on May 3, 1995, is deemed on that
22	date and thereafter to be a citizen of the United States for
23	purposes of owning corporations whose vessels are eligible
24	for documentation under chapter 121 of title 46, United
25	States Code, with a coastwise endorsement, if—

1	(1) the chief executive officer of the parent cor-
2	poration is a citizen of the United States;
3	(2) the chairman of the board of directors of the
4	parent corporation is a citizen of the United States,
5	and the number of its directors who are noncitizens
6	does not exceed a minority of the number necessary
7	to constitute a quorum;
8	(3) the parent corporation meets the stock owner-
9	ship requirements of section 2 of the Shipping Act,
10	1916, for operating a vessel in the coastwise trade;
11	(4) the corporation holding title is otherwise eli-
12	gible to own a vessel operated in the coastwise trade;
13	and
14	(5) the vessel is otherwise eligible to be operated
15	in the coastwise trade.
16	(c) SUNMAR SKY.—Section 1120(g) of the Coast
17	Guard Authorization Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–324;
18	110 Stat. 3978) is amended by inserting "SUNMAR SKY
19	(United States official number 683227)," after "vessels".
20	SEC. 404. CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD FACILITY IN
21	NAHANT, MASSACHUSETTS.
22	(a) Authority To Convey.—
23	(1) In general.—The Secretary of Transpor-
24	tation may convey, by an appropriate means of con-
25	veyance, all right, title, and interest of the United

- 1 States in and to the property comprising United
- 2 States Coast Guard Recreation Facility Nahant, Mas-
- 3 sachusetts, to the town of Nahant, Massachusetts.
- 4 (2) Identification of property.—The Sec-
- 5 retary may identify, describe, and determine the
- 6 property to be conveyed under this section.
- 7 (b) Terms and Conditions.—Any conveyance of
- 8 property under this section shall be made—
- 9 (1) without payment of consideration; and
- 10 (2) subject to the terms and conditions the Sec-
- 11 retary considers appropriate.
- 12 SEC. 405. UNREASONABLE OBSTRUCTION TO NAVIGATION.
- Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
- 14 liftbridge over the back channel of the Schuylkill River in
- 15 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is deemed to unreasonably ob-
- 16 struct navigation for purposes of the Act entitled "An Act
- 17 to provide for the alteration of certain bridges over navi-
- 18 gable waters of the United States, for the apportionment
- 19 of the cost of such alterations between the United States and
- 20 the owners of such bridges, and for other purposes", ap-
- 21 proved June 21, 1940 (chapter 409; 33 U.S.C. 511-523),
- 22 popularly known as the "Hobbs Bridge Act" and the "Tru-
- 23 man-Hobbs Bridge Act".

1	SEC. 406. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR OIL SPILL RE-
2	SPONSE VESSELS.
3	Section 1004(a)(2) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33
4	U.S.C. 2704(a)(2)) is amended by inserting "including a
5	vessel responding to a discharge of substantial threat of a
6	discharge of oil," after "vessel,".
7	SEC. 407. CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD PROPERTY TO
8	JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY IN JACKSON-
9	VILLE, FLORIDA.
10	(a) Authority To Convey.—
11	(1) In general.—The Secretary of Transpor-
12	tation may convey to Jacksonville University, located
13	in Jacksonville, Florida, without consideration, all
14	right, title, and interest of the United States in and
15	to the property comprising the Long Branch Rear
16	Range Light, Jacksonville, Florida.
17	(2) Identification of property.—The Sec-
18	retary may identify, describe, and determine the
19	property to be conveyed under this section.
20	(b) Terms and Conditions.—Any conveyance of any
21	property under this section shall be made—
22	(1) subject to the terms and conditions the Com-
23	mandant may consider appropriate; and
24	(2) subject to the condition that all right, title,
25	and interest in and to property conveyed shall imme-
26	diately revert to the United States if the property, or

1	any part thereof, ceases to be used by Jacksonville
2	University.
3	SEC. 408. PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL
4	SAFETY CONVENTION.
5	(a) In General.—Section 2302 of title 46, United
6	States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following
7	new subsection:
8	"(e)(1) A vessel may not transport cargoes sponsored
9	by the United States Government if—
10	"(A) the vessel has been detained by the Sec-
11	retary for violation of an international safety conven-
12	tion to which the United States is a party, and the
13	Secretary has published notice of that detention in an
14	electronic form, including the name of the owner of
15	the vessel; or
16	"(B) the owner of the vessel has had more than
17	one vessel detained by the Secretary for violation of
18	an international safety convention to which the Unit-
19	ed States is a party, and the Secretary has published
20	notice of that detention in an electronic form, includ-
21	ing the name of the owner of the vessel.
22	"(2) The prohibition in paragraph (1) expires for a
23	vessel 1 year after the date of the publication in electronic
24	form on which the prohibition is based.".

1	(b) Effective Date.—The amendment made by sub-
2	section (a) takes effect January 1, 1998.
3	SEC. 409. COAST GUARD CITY, USA.
4	The community of Grand Haven, Michigan, shall be
5	recognized as "Coast Guard City, USA".
6	SEC. 410. CONVEYANCE OF COMMUNICATION STATION BOS
7	TON MARSHFIELD RECEIVER SITE, MASSA
8	CHUSETTS.
9	(a) Authority To Convey.—
10	(1) In general.—The Secretary of Transpor-
11	tation may convey, by an appropriate means of con-
12	veyance, all right, title, and interest of the United
13	States in and to the Coast Guard Communication
14	Station Boston Marshfield Receiver Site, Massachu-
15	setts, to the Town of Marshfield, Massachusetts.
16	(2) Limitation.—The Secretary shall not convey
17	under this section the land on which is situated the
18	communications tower and the microwave building
19	facility of that station.
20	(3) Identification of property.—(A) The
21	Secretary may identify, describe, and determine the
22	property to be conveyed to the Town under this sec-
23	tion.
24	(B) The Secretary shall determine the exact acre-
25	age and legal description of the property to be con-

1	veyed under this section by a survey satisfactory to
2	the Secretary. The cost of the survey shall be borne by
3	$the \ Town.$
4	(b) Terms and Conditions.—Any conveyance of
5	property under this section shall be made—
6	(1) without payment of consideration; and
7	(2) subject to the following terms and conditions:
8	(A) The Secretary may reserve utility, ac-
9	cess, and any other appropriate easements on the
10	property conveyed for the purpose of operating,
11	maintaining, and protecting the communications
12	tower and the microwave building facility.
13	(B) The Town and its successors and as-
14	signs shall, at their own cost and expense, main-
15	tain the property conveyed under this section in
16	a proper, substantial, and workmanlike manner
17	as necessary to ensure the operation, mainte-
18	nance, and protection of the communications
19	tower and the microwave building facility.
20	(C) Any other terms and conditions the Sec-
21	retary considers appropriate to protect the inter-
22	ests of the United States.

Union Calendar No. 133

105TH CONGRESS H. R. 2204

[Report No. 105-236]

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

JULY 31, 1997

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed